

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 23 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

20. (Amended) An isolated protease sensitive peptide comprising the structure:

R1-X1-X2-Asn-Asp-R2

Wherein X1 and X2 are preferably the same and are preferably both Lys residues, R1 and R2 may be the same or different and each is a D or L amino acid, a peptide, a polypeptide, a protein, or an alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, acyl, dienyl, arylalkyl, arylalkenyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heterocyclic, substituted heterocyclic, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, nitro, hydroxy, thiol, sulfonyl, carboxy, alkoxy, aryloxy or alkylaryloxy group, and wherein at least one of R1 or R2 comprises an alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, acyl, dienyl, arylalkyl, arylalkenyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heterocyclic, substituted heterocyclic, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, nitro, hydroxy, thiol, sulfonyl, carboxy, alkoxy, aryloxy or alkylaryloxy group.

21. (Amended) An isolated protease sensitive peptide according to claim 20 wherein R1 and R2 may be the same or different, and X1 and X2 are each Lys.

22. (Amended) An isolated protease sensitive peptide according to claim 20 or 21 in recombinant or synthetic form.

30. (Amended) The isolated protease-sensitive peptide of claim 29, wherein both X1 and X2 are Lys.

31. (Amended) The isolated protease-sensitive peptide of claim 29, consisting of the sequence of XCPXXEEKKNDRICTNCCAGXKG (SEQ ID NO: 16).